(d) whether Government propose to continue with the existing arrangements for LPG; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURLA GAS (SHRI T.R. BALLU): (a) The indigenous LPG production and LPG imports during the last three years is given below:—

(figs. in MMT)

	Production	Imports
1994-95	2.86	0.597
1995-96	3.25	0.683
1996-97	3.36 (prov).	1.035 (prov).

During the first three months of 1997-98 (April 1997 to June 1997) indigenous production of LPG is 0.800 MMT.

(b) The cost of production of LPG vary from refinery to refinery, depending on the level of crude throuput, pattern of production, delivered cost of crude oil, the cost of processing/refining and the return on capital employed, etc. However, based on the existing Administrative Price Mechanism principles, the estimated cost of production of LPG in the country on industry basis considering weighted average cost of crude (exclusive of excise duty, marketing margin/freight) for 1996-97 is estimated as Rs. 7922/MT for LPG (packed).

The CIF cost of imported bulk LPG during 1996-97 was $ 303.82/MT (Rs. 10,892.76/MT)

(c) The estimated subsidy on LPG Packed Domestic during 1996-97 was Rs. 1950 crores. (Rs. 70.22/cyl.)

(d) and (e) With a view to improve supply of LPG in the country and to bring down the subsidy burden, free import and parallel marketing of LPG by Parallel marketeers both for domestic & industrial was allowed by the government in 1993. At present, no decision has been taken for changing these arrangements.

Setting up of Oil Refinery at Paradeep

1963. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an Oil Refinery at Paradeep;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith its estimated cost; and

(c) the details of the targets fixed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Indian Oil Corporation has submitted a Detailed Feasibility Report to set up a grass root refinery of 9 million tonnes per annum capacity in joint venture with Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, Kuwait. The refinery is proposed to be set up on the East Coast, Orissa. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 8331 Crores. The project is expected to be mechanically completed in 46 months after its approval by the Government.

Target Fixed for LPG Production

1964. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed by Government for production of LPG by the public sector companies during the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the present number of bottling plants functioning in the country by each of the public sector companies;

(c) the number of bottling plants likely to be installed during the above plan period, State-wise; and

(d) by when these plants are likely to be functional, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The Ninth Five Year Plan Sub Group Report have projected 19.426 Million Tonnes production estimates of LPG by the Public Sector Companies and their Joint Ventures during the Ninth Five Year Plan period.

(b) At present following number of LPG bottling plants are operating in the country with total bottling capacity of 3457 TMTPA:

Oil Co.	No. of bottling plants
IOC	42
BPC	19
HPC	30
Total:	91

(c) and (d) A total number of 115 LPG bottling plants have been planned during the IX Plan period. It is too early to indicate the exact time of commissioning of these plants.

ONGC Sales Revenue

1965. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC sales revenue got a boost from its LPG and Natural Gas production in 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to further increase production to meet overall shortage of LPG in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The sales revenue from LPG and natural gas during the last two years was as under:—

(figs. in Rs. Crs.)

Year	Sales revenue from LPG production	Sales revenue from natural gas production
1995-96	249.50	2838.50
1996-97	260.70	2829.70

(c) The following steps are being taken by ONGC to increase the LPG production from their existing production facilities located at Uran in Maharashtra and Hazira, Ankelswar and Gandhar in Gujarat.

1. The upgradation of gas processing facilities in Uran terminal is expected to increase the LPG production by about 50,000 tonnes per annum.
2. Upgradation of gas handling and sweetening facilities in Hazira terminal is expected to increase LPG production by about 30,000 tonnes per annuam.
3. After commissioning of gas compressors under Gandhar Phase II Development, the LPG production has increased by about 35,000 tonnes per annum.

Proposal to Compensate ONGC and Oil

1966. DR. D. VENKATESWAR RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to compensate ONGC and OIL for giving some of their fields to private sector, in 1994;

(b) if so,. the details thereof; and

(c) the rate of cess and royalty being paid on oil and gas explored from small and medium size discovered fields?